

General Section - 2004

D61 Epidemiology and Evaluations of Findings in the Alleged Rape Victims

Purna Chand Dikshit, MD, LLB*, Mukta Rani, MD, and Avneesh Gupta, MD, Department of Forensic Medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi 110002, India

After attending this presentation, attendees will learn about the profile of sexual assault in developing nation. This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by demonstrating a better understanding of crimes in developing countries like India.

The study was conducted between the year 1996 and 2001 in the Department of Forensic Medicine, MAMC and associated L.N. and G.B. Pant Hospitals. The 601 cases of alleged rape victims were analyzed along with the haemotoxylin and eosin stained smear preparations which were examined for the presence of spermatozoa and parameters were discerned which would prove useful in establishing the offence of rape. It was found that the commonest age group of victims was 11-20 years (51.58%). A total of 323 (53.80%) victims were unmarried and only fourteen (2.4%) victims were pregnant. Most of the victims (93.8%) belonged to the poor socio-economic strata. In 22 cases (3.7%), some intoxicating substance was used to lower the victim's opposition. A diurnal and seasonal variation was also found. Struggle marks in the form of injuries were seen only in 26 victims (5.4%). Fresh hymenal tear was present in 15.1% cases. A total of 178 cases (29.62%) showed sperms in the vaginal smear and sperm heads could be recovered from vagina as long as 7 days after coitus.

Rape Victims, Physical Injuries, Sexual Assault